

# Orchards News

December 2012

Well what a busy half term it has been at school, with children involved in lots of activities which enhance their learning. We were also really pleased to have so many people join us for the parents meetings we held for Maths and English. These were so well received that we have decided to hold more next term, so look out for notices for Writing, Multiplication/ Division and Early Years meetings.

## Your Feedback

Thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaires given out at parents evenings, 94 families completed a questionnaire. We found your responses very interesting, and know you would like us to improve communication with you... and make sure you know about events in good time. Some parents would also like us to look at how we resolve issues between children and a lot of parents are pleased we are organising more trips for children and would like us to organise a residential trip for Years 5 and 6.

24% of you said you think school is outstanding and 90% said overall school is good or better. To find out more about what you said you can find the percentage of responses to each question on our website.

## Better Communication

We are aware that we need to tell you sooner about special events and sometimes we need to notify you that something has had to change at short notice. The quickest way to do this is using the whiteboard outside school in a morning, updating our website and using the Facebook page. Can we ask you to look at the Orchards C of E page so that you get updates and share any that your friends would need to know. The facebook page is for information sharing and not for conversations. If you have something you would like to talk to us about please come and see a member of staff. I am always happy to help resolve any issues.



[www.orchards.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.orchards.cambs.sch.uk)

## Family Support Workers

Our Family Support Workers, Mrs Julie Carlile and Mrs Marleen Hall, are always there to talk to you about any concerns you may have. I know Christmas time can be tricky for all kinds of reasons. If you would like to see either of them just pop into the office to see when they are available.



## Children in Need Day

Wow! What an amazing school community you are, raising an amazing £366 for the charity. Chestnut Class have written a report (below) which tells you all about how we did it!

Children in Need day got off to a cracking start when a very naughty Pudsey visited our celebration assembly... and everyone wearing something spotty assembled for a photograph before going back to lessons.

At break time a mound of spotty cakes were on sale, and Connor definitely thought this was the best bit! The office was overwhelmed by the number of entries for the 'decorate Pudsey' competition and all together we raised an amazing £366



## Wisbech Community for Children's Charities

We were thrilled to welcome Mrs Munson and Mrs England to assembly on Wednesday when they came to tell us that the charity has donated £1,500 to support the fantastic work the Wellbeing team do in school. This is one of the oldest charities in Wisbech, and the committee are always keen to support children locally. I would like to say a huge thank you to the team who helped raise the funds and decided to support us.



## Pantomime!!!

We are really pleased that we have managed to book a great pantomime for the children on the last day of term. The show will start at 2pm and finish at 3.10pm, so the children will be ready to go home at about 3.20pm.



## Christmas Fair

We had a fantastic afternoon and raised an amazing £856 profit. Thank you to those who organised and helped with this event and to all of you who supported it.

## Space Visitor

In Year 3 we have been learning about space. We saw the Solar System in the Planetarium that came to visit us. The planetarium was a huge blow up dome. We went inside and it was very dark. The man showed us the planets and stars. We all really enjoyed the show.

By Germante & Mashal

## Victorian Day

On Victorian Day Mrs Oldman got the cane for having dirty hands. We went to Wisbech castle. First we sat down on the mat and we made a pie and we did washing, it was more fun than the pie. It took long and I didn't get time so we sat back on the mat then we got back up. He told us what to do. We had to find labels and read them.

By Hisham

On Victorian Day Miss Cunningham had a stick that was called a cane. In Victorian times if you had not clean hands you will get the cane. On Victorian Day our tables were in rows. We could sit where we like but there wasn't any laughing. On the Victorian Day we had to do things by ourselves.

By Sofija

## Visit to the Castle in Wisbech

Firstly we got on the bus and went to the castle. Secondly we got off the bus and we hung our coats up., then we were the servants. We made pies and some people washed some clothes. We did the trail and made trees and some Christmas decorations for the table. Then we had a song to sing. Lastly we got out and went on the bus by the Victorian Church.

By Cassidy and Kiah, Beech Class.



## Notices:

- We have a healthy tuck shop for children with items starting at 30p.
- There will be an exciting opportunity for Y5/6 pupils to have a residential experience at Stibbington after the February half term. Places limited to 34 per year group and will be on a 'first come first served' basis. More details to follow.

## Diary Dates

Disco YR, 1 ,2 &3 from 4pm to 5pm on 19th December

Disco Y4, 5 & 6 5.30pm to 7pm on 19th December

Christingle N R & Y1 **in school 9.00 am** 20th December

Christingle Y2-6 @ 2 pm at St Augustine's 20th December (weather permitting!)

Pantomime 2—3.10 pm 21st December

St Augustine's church will be open on Saturday 22nd December between 1—5 pm for a quiet moment to look at the Christmas trees

**Christmas Holiday—Break up on Friday 21st December**

**Return to school—Tuesday 8th January**

Teacher training Day Friday 8th February

*If you would like to see this in colour please look on the website*

We wish you all a very happy and relaxing

Christmas and a healthy New Year!

